



First Sunday after the Epiphany

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 10 & 11, 2021

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

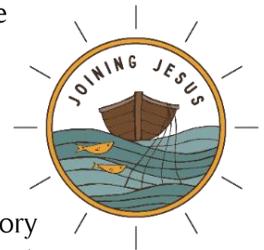
FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's eternal love for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing, or sitting will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

- Restrooms are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.
- If you have young children with you today, great! We encourage families to worship together. We do have a nursery area available just outside the chapel near the bathrooms, should you feel the need to step out of worship with your child for a moment.

WORSHIP SERIES: JOINING JESUS

Would you like to get to know Jesus? During the season of Epiphany, we are going to join Jesus and follow him through the Gospel of Mark. We'll see Jesus calling people like us to join him—ordinary people, working class individuals, even skeptics. Joining Jesus draws us into discipleship. Watch as Jesus reveals himself to be true God and true man as he unleashes his power to help the hurting, heal the sick, and destroy the devil. We pray that this Epiphany journey with Jesus in his glory will prepare you for joining him in the darkness of his suffering during Lent.



Today's Focus: Today we join Jesus at his baptism. Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of his ministry. As the perfect Son of God, Jesus certainly did not need to be baptized for his own sins. We are grateful that he carried our sins all the way to the cross. Jesus willingly did this work for us. In fact, **Jesus Loves His Job.**

NEW PASCHAL CANDLE

Eternal Love has a new Paschal Candle. The word "paschal" has Old Testament roots in the Passover. It is used in the New Testament church as a symbol of the Resurrection. We will use our new Paschal Candle on three occasions during the church year: during the Easter season, at baptisms, and at funerals. The Apostle Paul explains the extraordinary connection between these three events in Romans 6:3-5: *"Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him by this baptism into his death, so that just as he was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too would also walk in a new life. For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be united with him in the likeness of his resurrection."*

OPENING PRAISE

Take Us to The River



1. Take us to the riv - er, take us there in
 2. Take us to Your throne room. give us ears to
 3. Take us to the moun - tain, lift us in the
 4. Take us to the riv - er, take us there in



u - ni - ty to sing a song of Your sal - va - tion;
 hear the cry of heav'n. - For that cry is mer - cy
 shad - ow of Your hands. Is this Your might y an - gel
 u - ni - ty to sing a song of Your sa - va - tion;



to win this gen - er - a - tion for our King; A song of Your for
 - mer - cy to the fal - len sons of man. For mer - cy has tri -
 whostands a - stride the o - cean and the land? For in his hand Your
 to win this gen - er - a - tion for our King; A song of Your for

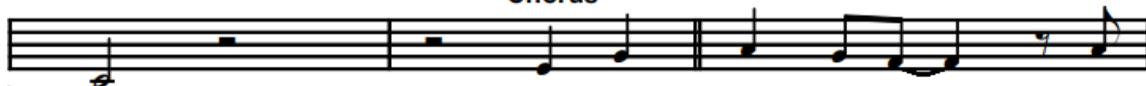


give - ness. for it is with grace that riv - er flows
 umphed tri - umphed o - ver judg - ment by the blood
 mer - cy show - ers on a dry and bar - ren place.
 give - ness for it is with grace that riv - er flows



— Take us to the riv - er in the cit - y of our God.
 — Take us to the throne room in the cit - y of our God.
 — Take us to the moun - tain in the cit - y of our God.
 — Take us to the riv - er in the cit - y of our God.

Chorus



— (to verse2)
 — (to chorus)
 — (to chorus)
 — (end)
 For the Spir - it of the

so - reign Lord ___ is ___ up - on ___ us.

This is ___ the year of ___ the ___ Lord. The

spir - it of ___ the sov - reign Lord ___ is ___ up -

on ___ us. This is ___ the year of ___ the ___ Lord.

INVOCATION

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

M: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit (*John 3:5,6*).

M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us (*Psalms 51:5*).

C: But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

CONFESSION

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: *Let us pray:*

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Acts 16:25-34

The good news of Jesus is revealed to a jailer; he and his family believe and are baptized.

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. Instantly all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw that the prison doors were opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, because he thought that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted with a loud voice, "Don't harm yourself, because we are all here!"

²⁹The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell down trembling in front of Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

³¹They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to everyone in his home. ³³At the same hour of the night, he took them and washed their wounds. Without delay, he and all his family were baptized. ³⁴Then he brought Paul and Silas into his house and set food before them. He rejoiced, because he and his whole household had come to believe in God.

STAND

GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

Jesus is baptized by John. Our God is revealed in three persons: Father, Son, and Spirit.

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. ⁶John was clothed in camel’s hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He preached, “One more powerful than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals! ⁸I baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love. I am well pleased with you.”

BE SEATED

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pastor shares a message for the young children.

SONG

Baptized in Water



Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Cleansed by the
Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Dead in the
Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Marked with the



blood of Christ our King: Heirs of sal - va - tion Trust - ing his
tomb with Christ our King: One with his ris - ing, Freed and for -
sign of Christ our King: Born of one Fa - ther, We are his



prom - ise, Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.



Listen to me, you coastlands. Pay attention, you faraway peoples! The LORD called me from the womb. When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword. He hid me in the shadow of his hand. He made me a polished arrow. He concealed me in his quiver. ³He said to me, “You are my servant Israel, in whom I will display my glory.”

⁴But I said to myself, “I have labored in vain. I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing. Yet a just verdict for me rests with the LORD, and my reward is with my God.”

⁵But now the LORD, who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to turn Jacob back to him, so that Israel might be gathered to him, so that I will be honored in the eyes of the LORD, because my God has been my strength—⁶the LORD said: It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant to raise up only the tribes of Jacob and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel, so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations, so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth.

Jesus Loves His Job!

- He is the right person in the right seat
- He is encouraged from above

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERING

Those who wish to give an offering today may place it in the offering plates near the door when exiting the chapel after worship.

The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. However, we do ask that everyone take part in completing the connection card. Whether you are worshiping in person or watching online, please fill it out now or later at www.eternal-love.org/onlineworship or scan the provided QR code to do so now.



OFFERING PRAISE

Come to The Water

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus, at your baptism you revealed yourself as the obedient Son of Man, fulfilling all righteousness. Your heavenly Father revealed you as his beloved Son, in whom he is well pleased. The Holy Spirit revealed you as the Christ, anointed and armed to destroy the work of the devil.

C: We thank you, beloved Son of God, that you took on yourself the nature of a servant, became like us, and were obedient to the will of your heavenly Father.

M: Lord Jesus, eternal Word of God, you have connected your mighty Word and gracious promises to the water of Holy Baptism. In Baptism you cleansed us from sin, redeemed us from death, and clothed us in your perfect righteousness. We praise you for the promise and treasure of Baptism.

C: Encourage us to remember our baptisms daily as we die to sin and rise to new life with you.

M: Heavenly Father, Lord of the nations, look in mercy on our nation as we struggle with discord and civil unrest. Frustrate the plans of those who stir up strife and violence, and bless the efforts of those who promote harmony and peace.

C: Give to our leaders and all in authority a special measure of wisdom and patience as they carry out their tasks, and grant that justice and peace may prevail throughout our land.

M: Help us in our calling as Christian citizens to reflect your love in all we do.

C: Let the preaching of the gospel, which alone can bring true peace to human hearts, be heard throughout the land.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

M: Baptized into your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
We claim a place, though weak and lowly, among your saints, your chosen host,
Buried with Christ and dead to sin. Your Spirit now shall live within.

**C: All that I am and love most dearly—receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely, and help me your own child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own serve any will but yours alone. Amen.**

STAND

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

Based on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-28

M: Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil. May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

C: Amen.

CLOSING PRAISE

Living Waters



1. Are you thir - sty? Are you emp - ty? Come and drink these liv - ing
 2. Christ is call - ing, find re - fresh - ing At the cross of liv - ing
 3. Spi - rit mov - ing, mer - cy wash - ing; Heal - ing in these liv - ing
 4. Are you thir - sty? Are you emp - ty? Come and drink these liv - ing



wa - ters. Tired and bro - ken, Peace un - spo - ken,
 wa - ters. Lay your life down, All the old gone,
 wa - ters. Lead your child - ren To the shore - line,
 wa - ters. Love, for - give - ness, Vast and bound - less,



Rest be - side these liv - ing wa - ters. (to v.2)
 Rise up in these liv - ing wa - ters. (to chorus)
 Life is in these liv - ing wa - ters. (to chorus)
 Christ, He is our liv - ing wa - ters (to chorus)

Chorus



There's a riv - er that flows with mer - cy and love, Bring - ing



joy to the ci - ty of our God; There our hope is se - cure, do not



fear an - y - more, Praise the Lord of liv - ing wa - ters.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our songs of praise today are accompanied by **Eternal Praise**,
one of our congregation's own musical groups.

Liturgist: Pastor Dave Backus

Preacher: Pastor Dave Pries

Take Us to The River

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Baptized in Water

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Come to The Water

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Living Waters

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Holy Bible

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